

a second end surface; and

a longitudinal bore extending through said fuse body from said first end surface to said second end surface, said bore comprising a positioning portion and a clearing portion, said positioning portion dimensioned to receive the outer dimension of the fuse element and maintain the fuse element in a substantially centered position within said clearing portion, thereby preventing the fuse element assembly from contacting an interior surface of the bore when the fuse element is enclosed in said bore.

12. A fuse comprising:

a fuse body comprising a first end, a second end and a bore extending therethrough, said bore comprising a clearing portion having a first cross sectional area and a positioning portion having a second cross sectional area; said first cross sectional area different than said second cross sectional area; and

a fuse element assembly enclosed in said bore, said fuse element assembly comprising an outer dimension substantially coextensive with said second cross sectional area, said outer dimension substantially centered within said first cross sectional area, thereby ensuring a clearance between a fuse element and an interior surface of said fuse body within said clearing portion.

Remarks

The Office Action mailed January 24, 2003 and made final has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-20 stand rejected.

The rejection of Claims 1-4, 7, 9, 10, 12, and 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Conrad (U.S. Patent No. 1,466,423) is respectfully traversed.